

Young and focused

Junior Citizen Award nominee making the right decisions

The Fort Erie Times

www.forterietimes.com

Saturday, January 28, 2012

Get ready to bowl



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Kaitlyn Lawrence, Larry Carroll, Olivia Douglas, Sondra Barrett, Bonnie Morden, Andrew Szabo, Steven Parker and Tina Smith are getting ready for the annual Bowl for Kids Sake campaign. Read the whole story on page 3.

Lean and clean

Operational review concludes with recommendations for council and staff to act on

Kris Dubé
The Times

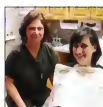
The consultant hired to conduct an operational review at Town Hall says there is room for some improvement, but gave the municipality what could be considered a passing grade.

On Monday night, David Berger, from Western Management Consultants gave council a thorough presentation on the review he and his colleagues conducted.

Twenty-five recommendations have been provided in the report that was approved unanimously by council. He referred to the Town of Fort Erie as a "lean" corporation.

Berger says the Town of Fort Erie compared favourably to other municipalities of similar sizes and that staffing levels in some departments are below the norm.

Summarizing his recommendations, Berger feels there is an opportunity to build stronger relationships between staff and council, which would improve staff morale and improve trust between both.



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See Page 2

Consultant says council needs to work on 'better governance'

From Page 1

Some additional capacity might exist within some departments, but the preliminary scan revealed no glaring inefficiencies.

Berger feels there are potential cost savings and cost avoid-

ance opportunities that exist, as well as possible ways to improve efficiencies, customer service and to build capacity.

He also wrote in his report that "better governance" holds the greatest opportunity related to how the Town operates.

"It has the potential to increase the number of key

operational decisions being made by the Town and decrease the amount of time and effort to make them," he wrote.

When council considered the report, two amendments were made.

The first was put on the table by Ward 4 Coun. John Hill for

council to conduct a quarterly review, to update the progress of how the recommendations made by Western Management have been implemented into the municipality's day-to-day operations.

The amendment received full support from all council members.

important, also to make sure council and staff are on the page when it comes to the recommendations that should be acted upon.

"I think it's important for council to look at these and prioritize them as to what we feel is important to move forward," said Steckley.

Mayor Doug Martin said council should consider the difficulty level of implementing some of the recommendations as well.

Referring to the statement made by Berger that the Community Gaming and Development and Community Health and Wellness department of the town needs a clearer name, Martin said this is one that could be acted on quickly.

"It's not a high priority, but it could be done in one meeting," said Martin.

Some of them are easy, some of them are a little more difficult," he added.

Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero commended the several Town department heads that sat in the audience on Monday, saying that on some occasions residents can see them as "easy targets" when it comes to complaints.

He agreed the findings of the

review have determined the municipality is a "lean and mean" operation and dismissed the claims that can be made against Town employees that they are not as productive as they should be.

"That isn't the case," Berger said the most important recommendations in his report are the final two he has listed, which deal with council cohesion and code of conduct, along with the relationship between politicians and staff.

He says "pro-active involvement as opposed to defensive posturing for both staff and council" is an area that needs improvement.

Another suggestion being made by the consulting firm is that the Town should provide better documentation of its vehicle movement records through GPS. But, he warned this issue should be investigated and implemented properly, without creating animosity between employees and council.

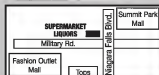
"That's critical in maintaining relationships with staff," he said.

The overall cost for the operational review is \$91,247.

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From Ridgeway to Broadway with Lee Siegel

Fort Erie native and RCGHS alum Lee Siegel visits for a conversation about musical theatre in his life. In the Niagara Region and on Broadway, Siegel opens on Broadway on March 22 in a production of Jesus Christ Superstar. For young people who love to perform, this is a 'don't miss' evening. Free. February 1, Centennial Branch, 7 p.m.

Adam Shoalts: 21st century Exploring

Shoalts recently returned from a Royal Canadian Geographic Society expedition to explore 100 km of uncharted river in the Hudson Bay lowlands. Adam's books will be available for sale. Free. February 8, Crystal Ridge Branch, 7 p.m.

Reader Tutorial

Need some coaching to make the best use of your new eReading device? Call now to register for one of two small group sessions presented at the Library. Free. February 1, Crystal Ridge, 6:30 p.m. February 8, Centennial, 6:30 p.m.

Myths and Truths about Strength Training

with Doug Willick
Personal trainer Doug Willick shares information for people interested in starting this type to fitness. Free. February 15, Centennial, 7 p.m.

Brighton Rock

Heath Miron is featured in this film based on a Graham Greene novel of crime and passion. February 16, Centennial, 6:30 p.m., \$2.

J. Edgar with Leo DiCaprio

DiCaprio stars in this cinematic exploration of Hoover's personality, his relationships and his career as head of the F.B.I. and the face of law enforcement in the United States. February 22, Centennial, 6:30 p.m., \$2.

Leap Into Music

A public concert by young area musicians. Admission is \$5 and refreshments will be served. February 28, Centennial, 7 p.m. \$5.

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Hit the lanes for Big Brothers Big Sisters

Kris Dubé
The Times

It takes only a few hours a week to volunteer with a local agency like Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS).

This also applies to supporting its biggest fundraiser, Bowl for Kids Sake, which will hit the lanes Carroll's Bowling Alley in late February and into early March.

Last year, Fort Erie BBBS just barely surpassed its goal of \$40,000 for the campaign and this time around the agency is hoping to strike a larger target of \$45,000.

Teams of five or six bowlers can participate in eight different time slots and BBBS executive director Sondra Barrett says about 40 per cent of those spots have been filled.

The remaining 60 per cent will hopefully be accommodated by local residents and businesses, which she says will most likely happen.

"If we fill the lanes and get the participants out that we expect, we should definitely be able to reach our goal," she said.

Last year's theme encouraged bowlers to relax and arrive in their pajamas, whereas this year there is a disco party atmosphere organizers are hoping participants will enjoy.

Barrett says the event for the last 16 years has always been a time for local community figures and residents to come together for a great time that also supports all of the agency's programs. "People like coming out to support a great cause and everyone is so close knit," said Barrett.

"They see the difference BBBS is

making in the community."

In 2011, Fort Erie BBBS served 216 children through its traditional matching and with other programs such as in-school mentoring and the Go Girls program.

"We've really expanded our programs, because of the need that's out there," she said.

Currently, there are 14 boys and four girls who are still in need of a 'big' to help them grow into young adults.

Barrett wants to emphasize that volunteering with the agency doesn't require someone to completely alter his life schedule.

"It's not a huge commitment... it really only takes a small amount of time," she said.

Andrew Szabo has been paired with 12-year-old Steven Parker for the last three months and both of them are enjoying the time they spend with one another.

Whether it's watching movies at home, playing chess or checking out the one of the arcades on Clifton

Hill in Niagara Falls, the two have become great friends.

"The most important part is each other's company," said Szabo.

Steven's father was Rob Parker, a dedicated community figure who passed away in 2010.

Andrew will never be able to fill the shoes of Steven's father, but the young boy is thankful for the time he has with his big brother.

"It's really nice to have someone to hang out with," said Steven.

"I don't really have any more men in my life, other than my grandpa," he added.

The dates for Bowl for Kids Sake are February 25 at 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 9 p.m., February 26 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., and March 3 at 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 9 p.m.

For more information, contact BBBS at (905) 871-8836.

Pledges can also be made online at www.bigbrothers-bigsisters.ca/forterie.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Andrew Szabo, left, and Steven Parker are just two of the many people who will be participating in the annual Bowl for Kids Sake campaign, at Carroll's Bowling Lanes in late February and early March.

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Coyotes making appearances in local neighbourhoods

Kris Dubé
The Times

Sending a flock of road-runners out into the community would be a far-fetched solution to keeping coyotes away from urban areas.

Therefore, a public meeting and session participated in by local residents, the Niagara Regional Police, local trappers and the Ministry of Natural Resources was held. Around that time, many concerns were voiced in the community about what could be done to avoid any tragedies related to small pets being snatched by the elusive animals, which there were a handful of cases of in areas near the Old Fort.

That same advice that was shared back then still remains in place today. In a coyote information pamphlet provided to the residents of Fort Erie by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), it is explained that coyotes are a natural part of rural and urban areas near ravines or wooded areas.

There are a number of things that can be done to prevent any interaction with them on your property.

Some of these precautions include properly storing and maintaining garbage containers, which would discourage them from prowling for a meal, and also prevent other rodents such as skunks and raccoons from putting themselves in a vulnerable position for a coyote attack.

Another measure that should be taken is removing all pet food from outside, which could draw coyotes in closer to your property.

Residents should avoid composting meat products, as failure to do so can also welcome coyotes closer to your home.

Purposely feeding and approaching the animals is also not recommended. They

are timid and usually scare away from human contact, but being fed can make them more comfortable and cause them to return for additional food.

Motion-sensitive lighting in yards can help deter coyotes from trespassing on your property and alarms or whistles that can be set off in the presence of an unwelcome animal can scare coyotes off and cause them not to return.

Pat Smallidon, a local resident on Court Street near General Vanier Public School, has had four sightings in recent weeks and hopes people living in her area, many of whom are senior citizens with small pets, will follow the guidelines that can deter a coyote presence in urban areas.

She owns her own medium-sized dog and has taken extra caution by carrying a stick when she walks her pooch in the neighbourhood, or by combing the yard before she lets her

dog out to do his business.

"You have to be very cautious about letting them out," she said.

Geoff Stephenson, from the Town of Fort Erie's by-law enforcement department, says there is little the municipality can do, other than raise awareness about the coyote presence by strongly advising residents to follow the precautions provided through the MNR.

"Don't approach them or feed them," said Stephenson, who estimated that about seven complaints on the matter have been heard at Town Hall, so far this week.

"If you have small pets, be aware that when you go outside there may be coyotes looking to eat," he added.

The Niagara Regional Police's district commander for Fort Erie, staff sergeant Dave Hunter, also echoed the recommendations provided by the ministry.

"I would certainly emphasize, don't approach the animal yourself," he said.

The police can respond to a coyote-related concern, which is categorized as a nuisance animal complaint. If a

coyote appears to be putting public safety at risk, that's the only time law enforcement can step in.

"Unless the animal is a danger, there's nothing we can do," said Hunter.

Wendy Trombley, manager of the local SPCA, said a trap was set up last week, in an attempt to apprehend a coyote that had been seen wandering around near the Niagara Bridge and on Gilmore Road, with a severe injury to its leg.

"We haven't had any luck catching it," she said.

Trombley said that when calls about the animals come to her office, she usually refers them to the MNR for further suggestions...whether it is a re-iteration of the many points provided in the information sheet on the Town of Fort Erie's website, or a recommendation to hire a local licensed trapper.

Under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, it is legal to hunt coyotes in Ontario. But it has to be for a hunting purpose, and not just to eliminate their presence in your neighbourhood, especially if you live in a residential area.

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Young citizen nominee 'making the right choices'

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

Michael Blair is highly motivated 16-year-old from Fort Erie who has made an impression on his teachers his peers and friends.

That's why the teenager has been nominated by Joanne Capretta, a guidance counsellor at Lakeshore Catholic High School, to receive the Ontario Junior Citizen Award.

Blair is one of two residents in Fort Erie to be nominated for the prestigious award which honours teenagers who make significant contributions to the community and he is also one of 176 teenagers across Ontario to be nominated for the award. If he is chosen, Blair will be one of 12 people awarded the citizenship award on Jan. 25.

"His maturity, his drive and his willingness to help are all characteristics that make him the perfect candidate for the award," says Joanne Capretta.

The guidance counsellor, who acts as an advisor for student council, says Blair has been an important part of his school community and that's why she entered his name.

"Michael has been an active member of student council as assemblies co-ordinator. He works with student council and the school's tech crew to make sure the school's events are successful."

Blair goes above and beyond what is expected of him and he is respected by his teachers and his peers, Capretta says.

The teen has a long list of accomplishments on his resume for a 16-year-old — he has been a member of student council for two years as assemblies' coordinator and he hopes to be student president next year.

"I joined council to get involved as much as I could. I wanted to shape our council," says Blair.

The teen says he is interested in making a difference in the world and he hopes to

start by making small changes within his school.

Blair has also been involved in the school's thanksgiving food drive and the Gator Walk Pilgrimage which is the school's annual fundraiser to provide aid for third world countries.

Within the community, Blair has been involved with the Royal Canadian Legion's poppy campaign and he has been an active volunteer for the Fort Erie YMCA.

For the past five years, Blair has also been a member, leader and Cadet Sergeant with the 2966 Royal Canadian Artillery Cadet Corps.

He has been involved with many parades, community clean-up activities, assisted with building a community playground and training of other cadets.

Blair is also an active member of the Fort Erie Mayor's Advisory Council and is very engaged in local, municipal and federal politics.

Even though he isn't able

to vote, Blair says it's still important to be involved with the political system so when the time does come for him to vote, Blair will be able to make an informed decision.

That's why he has volunteered by assisting with campaigning, scrutineering, and attending events and rallies.

"I'm very heavily involved in politics. I think complacency is the biggest evil."

The 16-year-old says his goal is to become a mechanical engineer after he graduates from Lakeshore. Blair says he will achieve his goal by attending the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston.

For now, the teen says he is excited to receive a nomination for the award because he is among 176 people across Ontario who are making important contributions to their communities.

"It is an hour to be nominated by my teacher and my peers. It shows me I am making the right choices."



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Michael Blair is one of two local students who have been nominated for the Young Citizen of the Year Award.

Drug dealer charged

On Wednesday, members of the Prescription Drug Unit, PAVIS Unit and Morality Unit conducted an investigation into the illegal sale of prescription medications from a storage building in Fort Erie.

Police arrested a 25 year old local male for a number of drug related offences. Police seized approximately \$4,000.00 in illegal drugs.

He is charged with possession of oxycodone for the purpose of trafficking, possession of cocaine and possession of marijuana. The male is being held in custody for a bail hearing.

This project has been made possible by a grant from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

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our editorial

Reading can bring success

The ability to read affects a person in every aspect of life.

Whether it's reading the label on a cereal box, or checking the TV guide to see if there are any good shows on television, people are constantly reading.

Not being able to read or write can have a negative impact on a person because it can stop him or her from obtaining employment and it can also cause a lack of self confidence.

It's difficult to name an activity a person can do without reading.

Imagine if you were a person who was afraid to go to the doctor's office because you couldn't read and sign a form the nurse gave you?

Imagine what it would be like if you were trying to fill out a job application but you couldn't finish it because you were too embarrassed?

Although it might be surprising, there are still people out there who have trouble reading and writing.

Not having the ability to read and write can lead to unnecessary struggles and stress.

That's why it's important to instill a love for words in children as soon as they are able to understand.

Yesterday was Literacy Day and students at St. Joseph's celebrated the day by dressing in their pyjamas and taking part in arts, crafts and other activities based on a Dr. Seuss book they read.

Students at General Vanier welcomed a few players from the Fort Erie Meteors who came and read to the students.

The point of Literacy Day was to make reading fun and in doing so, the students will learn a skill that will last a lifetime.

Next time the kids are stuck inside on a rainy day and they are running around the house, pick up a book and take them on a journey to a far off place, or go on an adventure, or jump at a good suspense story.

The time spent reading with your children will leave a lasting impression on them.

Happy reading everyone.

-Sarah Ferguson



Do You Remember?

Last week's photo was identified by an anonymous e-mailer, who recognized most of these people right away. From left to right, unknown, Ann Woods, Art Somerleigh, Madeline Falazza, unknown and Ann Somerleigh.

The Somerleighs first

established the Beachcombers Senior Citizens Association in a room upstairs at the West End arena.

They then purchased the Bickell's grocery store on Ridge Road which is the site of their present location.

This week's photo

shows proud cubs with their winning cub cars.

We have the names of two of the boys, Brent Gale and Darryl Belfry.

If you can match names to faces or tell us anything else about this photo, please call the Museum at 905 894-5322 or e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca.

TV segment will hopefully educate J.S. about its neighbour



Kris Dubé
Editor's Notebook

Fort Erie residents have it made, especially if they are sports fans.

This week, mayor Doug Martin brought forward a recommendation for council to support at this Monday's meeting related to a TV series that is distributed to American networks, designed to highlight tourism in various areas and our little town has been part of the conversation.

It will be a five-minute segment that can be used as a promotional tool for the town and although \$24,000 is a lot of cash for something like this, I'd say it's well worth it.

Terry Bradshaw, one of the biggest names in National Football League history is the host of the show and this would require him to visit Fort Erie as part of a news-person's perspective (who is also a huge sports fan), this will be really "cool" for a lack of abetter description.

He is also one of the most animated and colourful in sports broadcasting, which makes me believe the segment will not be a boring and dry five minutes of television.

There will be many attractions described in the broadcast I'm sure, but one I want to touch on is how lucky Fort Erie and Niagara are when it comes to having professional sports at their disposal.

There aren't too many other municipalities in Canada, other than Windsor that are so fortunate.

The Buffalo Sabres' arena can be seen from the edge of Lake Erie and the Buffalo Bills' stadium is about a 20 minute drive from the Peace Bridge.

People from the Greater Toronto Area hop on bus trips to enjoy Bills games and it seems like a luxury to them, having to only travel about two hours for a game.

For Fort Erie residents, we

can get there in much less than that.

While talking to mayor Doug Martin about this segment, he referred to Fort Erie as a small town with a big city attitude and there is some truth to that.

We are still a place where "everyone knows your name" but at the same time have so many opportunities to easily pro sports, along with arts and culture... whether it's just across the river in Buffalo or up the Queen Elizabeth Way in Toronto.

Many Canadians know this, but I do feel some of our American friends need to be further educated about what Canada has to offer, especially Fort Erie, a small town that is a

stones throw away from them.

Last year, I went to the former HSBC Arena (now called the First Niagara Arena) to watch my Montreal Canadiens take on the Buffalo Sabres.

And like every time I attend a hockey game in Buffalo, I leave shaking my head at how little Americans know about Canada.

A Sabres fan who I sat next to asked me if I was from Montreal because of the Canadiens gear I was wearing. I snickered and told her I wouldn't be up for the approximately eight hour drive it is from there and that I was from Fort Erie.

She responded by saying "where's that?" Really?

When I told her that Montreal was hundreds of miles away (not kilometres), she told me she didn't know Canada was that big.

After that, I basically said enjoy the game, since I didn't really feel like spending the night giving someone a geography lesson.

But this is an example of how there is always room for promoting what Fort Erie has to offer, because there are many people who live only 20 minutes away on the other side of the border and don't even know we exist.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207 or send me an email at editorial@forterietimes.com.

opinion page

Speedway will open up opportunity and support business

Dear Editor,

Thank you to all the supporters for attending the Canadian Motor Speedway (CMS) Ontario Municipal Board pre-hearing last week.

It has been wonderful to speak with so many residents who have a positive vision of what CMS can do for our town.

Once built, CMS will open up opportunity and support for existing businesses and as well as future developments.

By highlighting our town on a regional, national and international level, perhaps The Fort Erie Race Track and Slots and The Friendship Festival will be more widely supported and continue to grow.

This development could involve more that motorsports; hosting community charity functions and even hosting events such as an NHL Winter Classic in our Hockey Town. It would be nice to grow Fort Erie a little, in hopes of our children staying closer to home as they grow up, and having a place to take our children and future grandchildren as a range of events would appeal to people from all ages.

CMS has taken the time to listen to, and patiently address the concerns of the residents who are against the track."

— Claire MacSweyn

The Speedway project has been researched and approved (from every angle and for many government agencies), and has proven that regulations and standards will not only be met but surpassed.

CMS has taken the time to listen to, and patiently address the concerns of the residents who are against the track.

It's unfortunate that some have not been so open to meet with and listen to the factual research and data generated by CMS.

It appears that the Citizens Coalition of Greater Fort Erie (CCGFE), (which does NOT repre-

sent ALL Citizens of Fort Erie, despite their organizational name) would rather have Town and Region staff and lawyers prepare for, attend and speak at an OMB hearing for up to four weeks.

I understand that it is their right to have the OMB mediate, but if they continue to delay the process by raising concerns that have already been addressed...I can't imagine any other investors for any other developments ever wanting to invest their time and money in our Town again.

I also understand that we want change to be responsible to the residents and the environment, but when such a state-of-the-art, carbon-neutral, global project is ready to bring sustainable development, jobs, investments, revenue, green technology and a world class attraction to our town, I would hope as much time is spent looking at the many benefits!

Claire MacSweyn
Fort Erie

The TIMES Asks



Emily Taylor

"We need to be literate because in the future, any job we do, we will need to read."



Danny Stones

"It's important because in our life, not being able to read has an impact. If we don't read then there are less jobs available to us."



Jaiden Skilton

"So when you're older you won't need to ask for help when you're reading because you will already know a lot of words."



Nathan Wood

"When you read a book you always learn new words and the next time you see that word in another book you will understand it."

Why is it important to read, write and promote literacy?

What do you think?

E-mail: editorial@forterietimes.com or call 905-871-3100, ext. 207

Salvation Army thankful for support

Dear Editor,

The Salvation Army Fort Erie wishes to start 2012 with a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our 2011 Christmas Kettle Campaign and Christmas Hamper Program such a success. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, whether cash, food, toys or winter coats, our charitable corporate sponsorships, the selfless volunteers and individuals who rang bells at our kettles, we not only met, but surpassed our Kettle goal this year, raising more than \$43,000, and were able to provide Christmas to more than 280 households.

The hampers provided a Christmas turkey or ham dinner, with all the fixings, as well

as additional staples to over 800 individuals, more than half of them children. The children were able to open gifts on Christmas morning thanks to the work of the Fort Erie Kinsmen who collected and distributed the toys, and the Library who donated hats, scarves and mitts along with a book for each child. Thanks to a generous donation, the teens who are often overlooked during this season, received gift certificates allowing them the opportunity to make their own selection, and for many a gift box of personal items.

Donations also allowed us to provide a Christmas Community Luncheon for approximately 70 people, and to continue the Mobile Outreach Truck which cur-

rently provides a hot meal for about 80 each Monday evening.

This year marked the 120th anniversary of our Christmas Kettle Campaign, and the funds raised will help us meet the increased demand for our services and provide a sense of dignity for all throughout 2012. It is the people of Fort Erie, who are the Army behind The Salvation Army especially during the busy Christmas season, who allow us to carry on the necessary work. Thanks for keeping the Army's mission alive. We couldn't do it without you!

Donna Paterson
and Anne Watters
Fort Erie Salvation Army

Why Wait 'til the Last Minute?

Call and book your appointment today with our lending team...

RRSP loans are now available - contribution deadline for 2011 is February 29, 2012

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PUBLIC NOTICE

(1) Water & Wastewater Services 2012 Community Lead Sampling Program

The first cycle of our 2012 Community Lead Sampling Program will run from January 23, 2012 through April 15, 2012.

The presence of lead in drinking water may be as a result of lead service piping, older cast iron water main with lead joints, lead based solder in copper plumbing, or some brass fixtures may contain lead.

To participate in this program please call 905-871-1600 ext. 2465 to schedule an appointment for sample collection by our Licensed Operators. Sample collection will take about 45 minutes and all participants will be provided with copies of the sample results.

Grant Boutin, Manager, Water/Wastewater Services

(2) COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES BOARD AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Town of Fort Erie is seeking individuals interested in serving the community by standing for appointment to boards and committees where vacancies currently exist (*Please see By-laws establishing each of the boards at the Town's website www.forterie.on.ca under Town Staff "C" for "Committees."*)

Expressions of interest for consideration of appointment to the below noted boards and committees are invited from residents/business owners. *Applications must be completed on the form available on the Town's website www.forterie.on.ca under Public Notices – Board and Committee Vacancies, or from the Clerk's office* and will be received by the undersigned up to and including Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

(1) **BRIDGEBURG STATION DOWNTOWN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT – One (1) director vacancy.** Pursuant to Section 10 of By-law No. 183-07, if a Board vacancy occurs for any cause, a person may be appointed by Council to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term. **Purpose:** To improve, beautify and maintain municipally-owned lands, buildings and structures in the Bridgeburg Station Downtown B.I.A.; promote the area as a business or shopping area and maintain streetscape capital.

(2) **COMMUNITIES-IN-BLOOM COMMITTEE – Five (5) citizen appointee vacancies.** **Purpose:** To implement various programs, initiatives, events, promotional and education activities that encourage community participation in the program.

(3) **FORT ERIE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Two (2) citizen appointee vacancies and One (1) student from a secondary institution vacancy.** **Purpose:** To provide a committee for residents, elected officials and health professionals to meet on a monthly basis for the purpose of improving conditions for people-powered transportation (walking, biking, rollerblading) for utilitarian and recreational purposes.

(4) **FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD – One (1) citizen appointee vacancy.** **Purpose:** To govern the affairs of the libraries including policy development and advocacy for the public library services in Fort Erie, all in accordance with the Public Libraries Act. Qualifications: Town of Fort Erie resident, Canadian citizen and at least 18 years of age.

(5) **MUSEUM AND CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE / RAILROAD MUSEUM AND HERITAGE BUILDING DESIGNATION – Three (3) citizen appointee vacancies.** **Purpose:** This committee is comprised of two sub-committees as follows: (1) Museum Services and (2) Built Heritage. Members are needed with specific interest in the Fort Erie Railroad Museum and the 6218 steam engine, and interest in designating heritage homes, buildings and sites and advising on the Point Abino Lighthouse. Sub-committees meet approximately once a month. Current projects include developing an inventory of heritage homes, raising community awareness regarding the 6218 repair project, and maintaining existing cultural heritage services.

(6) **SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Two (2) appointee vacancies from community at large (age 50 & over).** **Purpose:** To establish a mechanism to fairly and equitably distribute financial assistance provided by the Town of Fort Erie for planning and hosting social events and to determine the need for increased senior citizen services.

This information is being collected pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to select persons for appointments to Town of Fort Erie boards and committees.

Carolyn J. Kelt, Town Clerk • Town of Fort Erie • 1 Municipal Centre Drive • Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2S6

Applications can also be: Emailed to ckelt@forterie.on.ca or Faxed to 905-871-4022

Town and union at odds

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

With contract negotiations coming to a halt between the Town of Fort Erie and its unionized employees, the Town has requested a third-party mediator.

Representatives of Town management and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local #714 have met twice in December and on Wednesday to discuss the terms of a new contract, say Ron Tripp, interim chief administrative officer.

The agreement between the Town and CUPE expired on Dec. 31 and both sides are at odds over contract language covering job postings and layoffs. Wages

and benefits were not discussed.

The union represents about 80 full-time jobs and casual employees, says Tripp.

"The contract affects all faucets of Town including the public works and parks and recreation departments."

The request for a third-party mediator was made by the Town on Wednesday to help both parties come to a collective agreement.

"This is the first step beyond individual discussion. Both sides acknowledge difficulty working with the language and both sides can't agree on what that change might be."

The interim CAO says he doesn't expect contract negotiations will affect the Town's services.

Two seizures at Peace Bridge

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) has announced two seizures that were executed at the Peace Bridge.

On January 7, a woman from Rochester, N.Y., attempted to enter Canada by bus at the Peace Bridge. During a routine examination with the assistance of a detector dog handler and his dog 'KC', border services officers examined a bag containing food in the woman's possession.

Hidden in food items, officers discovered a quantity of suspected narcotics including marijuana, psilocybin and oxycodone.

She was charged with three counts of importing under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

On January 11, a male from Winnipeg attempted to enter Canada at the Peace Bridge when he was referred for a secondary inspection.

During this examination, border officers discovered a laptop computer in the cab of his truck containing sexually suggestive images that appeared to be child pornography.

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)'s criminal investigators attended and charged him under the Customs Act with attempting to smuggle, possession of illegally imported goods, and non-report of goods.

The Niagara Regional Police were contacted and laid further charges under the Criminal Code.

Public Notice

Public Meeting for the
Fort Erie Elementary Accommodation Review
will be held at:

GENERAL VANIER PUBLIC SCHOOL
105 Torrance Street, Fort Erie, Ontario

Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Schools involved in the review area are:
Fort Erie Public, Garrison Road, General Vanier, Rose Seaton



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7P4
Phone: 905-641-1550 Website: www.dsbn.org

Chair: Kevin Maves Director: Warren Hoshizaki

Gift from the Heart program will keep local residents smiling



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Dental hygienist Nancy Pearce and Amy Gillies show the warm and inviting atmosphere that people who attend Gift from the Heart will enjoy, at the one-day event offering free cleanings and oral health education to people who don't have access to regular dental care.

➤ Local hygienist offering free cleanings on Feb. 11, by appointment only

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

Dental hygienist Nancy Pearce wants everyone to have an amazing smile and the proper education in oral health.

That's why Independent Choice Dental will be partnering with Bridges Community Health (CHC) to educate residents about healthy teeth and gums on Feb. 11.

Pearce will offer free cleanings for people who are in need because they don't have access to health coverage from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cleaning will be done by appointment only, says Pearce, adding she can only perform a limited number of cleanings because each patient will undergo an assessment and screening process for their mouths.

Rhonda Barron, health promoter for Bridges, will offer a workshop on the effects of smoking on oral health and how to quit the addiction from 10 to 12 p.m. The Niagara Region Mobile Dental Bus will also be available from 9:30 a.m. until noon, giving information about dental programs for children 17 and under.

Pearce says there are many people in the community that need access to oral health care and they can't afford it because they don't have health coverage.

This year, the Gift from the Heart program will go across Canada, says Pearce, adding that the goal of the program is "to raise awareness about people who are over 17, or who aren't covered under insurance and who can't afford dental work. We're trying to get the government to make changes and increase programs of more coverage."

Having annual check-ups doesn't have to be scary — Pearce says her office is designed to have a welcoming atmosphere where people can feel comfortable while receiving their clean-

ing. And having a better smile will lead to more confidence and a healthier lifestyle, says Pearce.

"Oral health has been proven to affect your general health—everything from diabetes, your heart to preterm delivery for women who have a gum infection."

For more information about the Gift from the Heart program, contact Pearce at 905-994-1635.

“
Oral health has been proven to affect your general health.”

— Nancy Pearce

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Have you HEARD?
by Karen Miller, M.D. Sc
HearAgain
audiologist

INSTRUMENTAL TO YOUR HEALTH
If you play an instrument, you should take steps to preserve the sense that is so crucial to your enjoyment of music. According to one study, up to 30 percent of pop musicians are 50 percent of classical musicians may develop some degree of noise-induced hearing loss. While factory machinery may produce about 100 decibels (dB), a large orchestra can reach levels of 112 dB or more, and rock concerts can hit 120-130 dB. With this in mind, it certainly makes good sense for musicians to protect their ears from prolonged and accumulated exposure to loud sounds. Otherwise, they may soon find that their ability to hear high frequencies will be compromised and playing in their cars may become tedious.

Hearing professionals recommend that you have your hearing evaluated once a year. You should always report a change in hearing to your hearing health care professional and your doctor. Since insurance plans will assist with the cost of hearing aids, if you're tired of one-upping your hearing, please call HEARAGAIN BALANCE & HEARING CLINICS at 905-471-4342. Our modern, comfortable office at 800 Burnham Rd., Unit 12 is wheelchair accessible and offers state of the art diagnostic equipment. Office hours are 9A-5P, Sun-5P. Most major insurance accepted. Please visit our website at www.hearagain-erie.com

P.S. These amplifiers are specifically designed for use by musicians.

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Ask the Expert

Ask a Funeral Director

- Q** We have been getting information on a cemetery and funeral home combination located out of town, what can you tell me about this?
- A:** The Act that governs funeral services in Ontario is changing allowing for services that some may find intriguing or convenient. This however can often be a double edged sword. Prior to making any decision, consult your local funeral service providers who will be able to discuss options in a non-aggressive or pushy manner and allow you to make the choices that are right for you. If you can be of assistance in helping with these decisions, I welcome your inquiry.



Darren Flagg
Funeral Director



Bethesda Avenue • Fort Erie
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Ask a Mental Health Therapist

- Q** What is Cognitive Behavioural Therapy?
- A:** Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) is a type of structured therapy aimed at giving people tools to identify and solve their problems. It is aimed at changing negative thinking patterns that people adopt that make it difficult to change behaviours. The goal is to examine the interactions between thoughts, feelings and actions.
- It has been scientifically proven and is used in mental health in the treatment of many conditions including anxiety, depression and addiction. It has proven to be successful on its own or in conjunction with medications helping individuals achieve and maintain control of their symptoms rather than the symptoms controlling them. The treatment is offered on a 1 to 1 basis or in a group format by experienced CBT therapists.



Anne Smithson,
Reg. R. Counsellor

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How do I safeguard my PC?

- There are no simple answers to ensure your PC remains garbage-free, but here are some tips:**
- Install an AntiVirus and keep it updated
 - Be wary of emails asking you to open attachments
 - Look closely at links in emails to see if legitimate
 - Scam emails generally have bad grammar and are poorly written - use caution if responding or clicking!



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Ask a "Home Improvement Specialist"

- Q:** I am considering updating my bathroom with a new shower unit. Should I choose polycarbonate, ABS, acrylic fiberglass or acrylic materials for this shower unit?

A: Cost, appearance, durability, reparability and ambient temperatures are considerations for your choice of materials. Polycarbonate and ABS are usually the most expensive materials to use, but are often justified by using a special adhesive to attach them to backing material. If the installation is in a summer home, attached in the winter, the unit will likely develop cracks over the winter. ABS and polycarbonate cannot be buffed to repair the finish. Fiberglass is more costly than either ABS or polycarbonate. It usually has a gelcoat finish to make it more resilient and increase its lifespan. Once the gelcoat has been worn away, the fiberglass material is exposed and the unit suffers from its appearance. Acrylic materials are usually the most costly, but the repair-replacement process makes a stronger and more scratch resistant finish. This means an acrylic unit can be buffed, repaired and will last a much longer time. Take the time to discuss your installation thoroughly with your shower supplier. Good luck with your renovations!



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email: tim@tim-bart.net
Store hours: Mon-Fri: 9:30-6:30
Sat: 9:00-6:00 • Sun: 9:00-3:00

Committee recommends school closures

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

The Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) has decided both Rose Seaton and Fort Erie Elementary Schools should close.

The District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) board of trustees decided to examine how they can provide better learning spaces for students by forming a committee to review General Vanier, Rose Seaton, and Garrison Road and Fort Erie elementary schools.

The ARC met on Wednesday and finalized their recommendation to close both Rose Seaton and Fort Erie, leaving Garrison Road Public School and General Vanier open. Their recommendations will be presented to the board of trustees on Feb. 14.

The recommendations include using the Queen Elizabeth Way as the dividing boundary line, says Stephen Passero, ARC member and Ward 1 Councillor.

"Students south of the QEYW will attend General Vanier and all students north of the QEYW will attend Garrison Road."

Passero says the ARC has also made a recommendation to renovate General Vanier to accommodate the extra students.

These renovations include making improvements to the kindergarten classroom, a new entrance and a new drop-off for kindergarten students and a new bus loading zone.

The recommendations also call for a new gym to be

built and the existing gym will be turned into three new classrooms and an additional two classrooms will be added on to the school if it's necessary, says Passero.

The ARC has also recommended a facility renewal program which will assess the needs of the school for the next five years and needs will be completed along with the renovations, Passero says.

"These things include new lockers, new electrical improvements, and new interior improvements. Because of the facility renewal program all of these things will be completed before the school reopens."

Passero recognizes many parents might not be in favour of the recommendations, but he says it is the best solution for everyone.

"The goal of the committee has been about providing the best quality of education for kids. When a school is at half of its capacity, it doesn't have the amount of resources needed."

With declining enrolment rates, Passero says he recognizes the need to consolidate both Fort Erie and Rose Seaton into General Vanier and Garrison Road to provide students with more resources and the best possible education.

It has not been an easy or a popular decision, but as the committee has gone through the process we found it was the most appropriate decision."

*-Read the whole story at
www.forterietimes.com*

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Jarvis Pharma task force completes study

The Jarvis Street Pharma Task Force has concluded its study efforts, with the completion of the strategic analysis through Deloitte and Touche Inc.

Deloitte was retained by the Task Force to provide a strategic assessment of Jarvis Street Pharma Corporation (formerly Pharmacia) in order to assess the current state of the company and its potential strategic options.

This included physical assets, operational capabilities, financial analysis, market analysis and potential sale strategies for the corporation.

The funding for the task force (\$105,000) was provided by the Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corporation (EDTC) including a grant to the EDTC of \$50,000 from the Town of Fort Erie.

At the impetus of the EDTC, the task force was assembled in 2010 when the owners of the corporation announced sales orders were not as robust as they needed into the future and would be considering two options, which are sale of the corporation or closure of the operation.

The sale option is an ownership prerogative, as long as the plant were to remain financially viable.

The Task Force is com-

prised of the ownership of Jarvis Street Pharma Inc., the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Union, the Town of Fort Erie, the EDTC and member of provincial parliament Kim Craitor.

"The study remains confidential to the task force members," said EDTC general manager and task force spokesperson Jim Thibert.

He said the data will remain private because of the proprietary and confidential nature of the financial data involved.

"I can tell you that the ownership was fully co-operative and engaged in the task force and as a result, Deloitte had availability and access to the plant and all of the records they needed to complete the Task Force objectives," said Thibert.

As a result of the task force's efforts, parties have been identified that are interested in pursuing due diligence and the ownership has embarked on a formal disposition process and have retained Deloitte to co-ordinate this process.

"All of the members of the task force are hopeful the study results and this focused approach by the owners will enable a potential purchaser to develop a successful offer and operation at the Fort Erie plant," said Thibert.



Ask The Accountant

Q: What is the new Ontario 30% tuition fee discount?

A: To help create the best-educated work force in the future, Ontario has created a 30 per cent cut in average college and university tuition, starting in 2012.

The new grant will make sure post-secondary education remains accessible and affordable by saving Ontario families \$1 per student in university and \$750 per student in college, each year. The grant will apply to families under \$160,000 and be available for up to four years of a full-time undergraduate program.

The McGraw-Hill government will work with post-secondary institutions to ensure that students receive this support for the semester starting January 2012. The grants will be received directly by the school on the student's behalf. The application must be completed on-line and can be found at www.ontario.ca/oe30. Students already receiving OASAP need not apply, as they will automatically receive their discount.



Kenneth D. Leachyhn
CMA, AIA, CFE

**crawford
smith &
swallow**

Chartered Accountants LLP
76 Jarvis Street,
Fort Erie, Ontario
905-871-2610

ken@crawfordss.com

ASK THE EXPERT



Q: Why is it important to create a Human Resources (HR) Policies and Procedures Manual?

A: Whether your business is small or large, having a HR Policies and Procedures Manual sets out the expectations of your organization. It provides more information about your business and its values. These guidelines provide a sense of standardization and are intended to safeguard both the employee and employer. These policies should be written in a language that is clear and understandable; outline the rights and obligations of both the employer and employee; work in conjunction with and in addition to Employment Standards; and demonstrate respect for the workplace. Policies can help to minimize mismanagement bias, avoid costly legal expenses. There are also legal requirements to develop and implement certain policies such as workplace violence and harassment, accessibility, etc. It is recommended that when designing your policy you seek the appropriate professional assistance.

For more information contact:



**Business Success & Loan
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Ask the Interior Decorator

Q: Just how important is colour?

A: Many of us don't realize the affect colours can have on our lives. They have the power to evoke memories and enhance our feelings. They influence our mental health and well-being. Certain colours are known to comfort and calm us or excite and invigorate us. Some can make us feel cheerful while others can have the opposite affect. They can even increase our appetite! Whether you are contemplating a move or just want to update your look, painting provides the most bang for your buck! Be right on trend by adding cheerful yellow pillows or throws to a room freshly painted in the latest silvery blue. You will have lifted your spirits and updated your look – something your or your buyer will appreciate.



If you are contemplating a colour and aren't sure how to incorporate it, call me – I'd be happy to help you.

To find out more about how home staging can help you please call me at 284-321-1487 or visit me at www.muzcanadadesign.com

Ask a Hair Stylist

Q: What would you advise for someone with thinning hair?

A: The easiest way to produce volume is through curl and layers. If your hair is naturally curly, adding some layers will allow life and fullness. You can also consider lightening your hair, therefore there is less contrast between your scalp and your hair. There is also a great Paul Mitchell Extra-Body line, consisting of Volumizing shampoos and conditioners, Extra-Body Sculpting Foam, Thick-Up, Extra-Body Finishing Spray and many more Volumizing products.



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Jaci & Val
Hair Stylists Owners

Ask a Restaurateur

Q: I just got a new job that will allow me to travel on Tues and 4 and one of the perks is that I will have a 30% discount.

I love dining out, so how can I maximize my travel on business?

A: First of all, congratulations on getting a job that allows you the opportunity to travel and dining out! Sourcing out good places to eat is quite easy, if you choose to ask "locals" near your most destination, as word of mouth is probably your best bet. To be more precise, cafes, bars, greets, hotel food carts, hotel concierges and even restaurant websites may be best sources that can help you decide where to eat. On the other hand, restaurant concierges and hotel/bars have done studies in which they recommend avoiding on-site restaurant reviews because they are somewhat biased and offering as they allow misleading anonymous reviews to be posted without validation.

Studies show that restaurant recommendations might be influenced by reviews within designated former employees under family and friends may experience themselves and give a poor review.

Apparently studies have shown that if someone didn't put their own name on it and validate it, it's certainly not worth the reference, so beware of each website and stick to asking people who have your best interest in mind and enjoy your next culinary adventure!



Don Appelle
New Haven, Steve Koutoulikis

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Owner: www.theoldbankbistro.com

Get ready to laugh with GLT

Garrison Little Theatre has opened ticket sales for its next production, 'Don't Dress for Dinner' by Marc Camoletti.

The show kicks off on February 24 and tickets can be purchased at Fort Erie Paints on Garrison Road.

For the evening shows, tickets are \$39.55 and the matinee show on March 3 is \$22.60.

"It's a really great cast," said director Zdenka Cole.

All shows take place at the Italo-Canadian Club on Dipietro Street.

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This program provides business plan development, mentoring, and income support to self-employed applicants.

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO
The Employment Ontario program is funded in part by the Government of Canada

Public Notice

**Public Meeting for the
Fort Erie Elementary Accommodation Review
will be held at:**

**GENERAL VANIER PUBLIC SCHOOL
105 Torrance Street, Fort Erie, Ontario**

Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

**Schools involved in the review area are:
Fort Erie Public, Garrison Road, General Vanier, Rose Seaton**



**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7P4
Phone: 905-641-1550 Website: www.dsbni.org**

Chair: Kevin Maves Director: Warren Hoshizaki

Graduations



Kathleen (Kate) Feetham -
Congratulations to Kathleen (Kate) Feetham on obtaining her Master of Arts Degree in History from Brock University. We are extremely proud of all of your accomplishments and we wish you continued success in your future. May all of your dreams and wishes come true. Love Mom, Tom and Grandpa. XOXO

In memoriam



Karyn Rhodes - January 31, 2011
God looked around His garden
And found an empty place
He then looked down upon the earth
And saw your true face
He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again
He saw the road was getting rough
And hills were hard to climb
So He closed your weary eyelids
And whispered "Peace be Thine"
It broke our heart to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The Day God called you home
Missing you always Dad, Bob, Danielle
and Joclyn

Anniversaries



Pasquale and Carmela Iannello
Congratulations Mom and Dad on
your 60th Wedding Anniversary
This anniversary greeting
is coming to convey

The heartfelt thanks so often left unsaid
from day to day,
And for the thoughtful things you've done
and all that you still do,
May all the joy you so deserve be,
today, with you,
Love from all of us,
Frank, Ide, Don, Danielle and Nicole

Karyn Rhodes - January 31, 2011
We had a wonderful Grandma
One who never really grew old
Her smile was made of sunshine
And her heart was solid gold
Her eyes were as bright as shining
stars
And in her cheeks fair roses you see
We had a wonderful Grandma
And that's the way it will always be.
Love always Jocelyn and Teagan.



NOBLE, Lois - In loving memory of Lois Noble who passed away January 28, 2008.

We all miss you the same
even after three years,
We think of you daily
and still shed some tears.
No one could have asked
for a better mother like you,
You cherished us all,
kept us together like glue.
We know you are looking down
at all that we do,
Please know we're looking up
and thinking of you.
"Love always, your Husband and Kids.



There's an open gate at the end of the road,
Through which each one must go alone;
And there is a light we cannot see
Our Father claims His own.
Beyond the gate, our loved ones
Find happiness and rest,
And there is comfort in the thought
That a loving God knows best.

Memoriam Verse #36
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

There is a sad and sweet remembrance,
There is memory fond and true,
There is a token of affection
And a heartache still for you.

Memoriam Verse #35
To remember a loved one with this verse
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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Birthday greetings



**Happy 87th Birthday
Des Parry**

January 31st
We love you today!
Lynn, Linda, Pat, Sharon, Jim, Brett, Dianne,
Mitch, John, Kevin, Tim, Darin, Sam,
Jamie, Christie, Grace, Tammie,
Aspen and Roger

*Open House
Celebration*

Let your family and friends know
where to celebrate with you.
Call Classifieds: 1 866 541 6757

Birthday greetings



**Nifty Nifty, Look Who's?
Mom**

Also - Happy Birthday Kristin
Love, Angellina

*Happy
Retirement*

Is there a milestone in
someone's life that
you want to share?
Call Classifieds: 1 866 541 6757

In memoriam

Deaths

AITCHESON, Kathleen - Passed away at Douglas Memorial Hospital on January 16, 2012 with family by her side. Predeceased by husband Ralph (1990). Dear mother of Jeff (Jessie), Wayne and Pat. Also survived by sister Frances Nelenzaki, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Special thanks to Dr. Gleason and staff of Douglas Memorial. At her request, cremation has taken place. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES 905-894-0120**

BATES, Linda Louise - Peacefully at Douglas Memorial Hospital on Friday January 27th, 2012 at the age of 85 years. Beloved and best friend to Bill Dargatzis for 38 years, loving mother to Kim, Paul, Jennifer, Bill Jr., Tommy, Roger, Jeannine and Ethan, cherished grandmother of Michael, Megan, Nicholas and Sarah and dear sister to Helen (Chris) Szewelski and Timothy Sawyer. Linda was a caring foster parent for 28 years to 63 children. She was a lunch room supervisor for Ridgeway and Berrie Public Schools from many years. Linda and Bill were known as Mr. & Mrs. "D" her dedication and loving spirit will never be forgotten. Visitation for Linda will be held at **THE WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME, 722 Ridge Road N., Ridgeway** on Monday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. to view the casket. Her life will be held in the chapel on Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock. Interment will follow at Ridgeway Cemetery. In memory of Linda, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions would be appreciated to The Canadian Cancer Society. On line guest register www.williamsfuneralhome.ca

BENNER, Harold Jack - Passed away suddenly at his home in his 89th year. Survived by his loving wife of nearly 50 years Diane (nee Dolson). Cherished father of K.C. Benner and proud grandfather of Caitlin Benner and her special friend Bryce Adelson. Sadly missed by sister and brother-in-law Ruth and Ron White of Houston Texas, sisters-in-law Barbara Gardner and family and Linda and Ron Walsh and family. Harold will be sadly missed by all his nieces, nephews and all who knew and loved him. Special thanks to the Niagara EMCC's Niagara Regional Police, Caitlin, Bryce and their friend Taylor for their heroic efforts. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES** 1105 Benner Ave Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Friends were received on January 28th from 11 a.m. until time of service in the Benner Chapel at 1 p.m. Cremation to follow. Donations in memory of Harold to the Fort Erie SPCA would be appreciated by the family.

Deaths

MacDONALD, Mabel Evelyn - On Friday January 20, 2012 Mabel passed away peacefully at the age of 101 years at Gilmore Lodge, Fort Erie. Beloved wife of the late Lloyd MacDONALD. Cherished mother of Shirley Heywood (Bill), Jim MacDONALD and the late Bill Thompson. She was a long standing member of the United Church in Ridgeway and loved to participate in various social occasions. Her natural curiosity also made her a voracious reader who she kept adept at word puzzles, even at her advanced age. Mabel's dry sense of humour and her unaffected, sympathetic temperament made her a treasured friend to all who knew her. A sincere thank you to the wonderful staff in all the departments at Gilmore Lodge, and very special thanks to those closest to Mabel: Alison, Andrea, Pauline and Marg. Private family services. Interment at Ridgeway Memorial Cemetery at a later date. Those who wish may make a memorial contribution to Gilmore Lodge Auxiliary or Recreation Department (Music) through **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME, 722 Ridge Road North, Ridgeway**. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at www.williamsfuneralhome.ca

PRAGER, Margot - Peacefully at Maple Park Lodge on Sunday, January 22nd, 2012 in her 88th year. Margot was the wife of the late Fred Prager. Cherished mother of Christine (Thomas) Beck of East Aurora New York. Proud grandmother of Stephen (Dagoberto) Beck and Jeffrey (John) Beck. Cherished great grandmother of 4. Margot and Fred was the longtime proprietors of Frenchman's Creek Campergrounds on the Niagara Parkway. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES, 1105 Benner Ave Fort Erie, Ontario** entrusted with arrangements. Cremation has taken place, private graveside service will be held at a later date.

Deaths

MAULUCCI, Giovanni "John" - Surrounded by his family at the Douglas Memorial Hospital, Fort Erie, on Friday, January 20th, 2012 in his 85th year. Beloved husband of the late Maria (Giuliana) Maulucci (1938) and survived by his second wife Nora Maulucci, Loving father of Marina (late Tim) Perles of Fort Erie, Louis (Gail) Maulucci of Sault Ste. Marie and John (Kathleen) Maulucci of Fort Erie. Loved Nenna de Cesi (Kevin), Michael, Trevor, Dylan and Tamar. Dear brother of Filomena (late Paul) Schiavone, brother-in-law of Ida and Marie Maulucci, Marie (late George) Giuliani and Mario (late Mary) Giuliani. Predeceased by brothers Vincenzo and Giosue. John always put family first and this was very important to him. He was a parishioner of St. Michael's Church, a member of The Knights of Columbus Council 3320 and the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Father Faustus A. McKenna Assembly 0873. He was a founding member of the Italo-Canadian Club, Fort Erie. John received The Senior of the Year Award from the Town of Fort Erie in 1997 for his outstanding contributions to the community. The family received their friends at the **HAMMOND-DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME, 21 Wintemute Street, Fort Erie** on Monday from 2 - 4 and 6 - 9 p.m. Funeral Mass was Celebrated at St. Michael's Church, Fort Erie on Tuesday, January 24th at 11:00 a.m. The Rite of Committal at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Fort Erie. The Vigil with the Knights of Columbus present was Celebrated at the Funeral Home on Monday at 3:00 p.m. Memorial Donations may be made to The Society of St. Vincent de Paul or the charity of your choice. On-line condolences at www.hammondsdavidsonfuneralhome.com

Pam Winger

December 10, 1949 to January 20, 2011

Dear Jesus,
Protect my Nanny every day,
be the flame that lights her way.
Open her eyes and make her see,
no one loves her as much as me.
Lean down and whisper in her ears,
that I will love her all my years.
Tell her I remember what she told me,
that it is okay to cry.
That she was right about a lot,
and it is no one's business why.
Let her know she is not alone, eith in
her mind the words of my poem.
My nanny you see, is very important to
me, as important as any one person
could be.

Words cannot express my gratitude
toward my Nanny and all she did do.
Thank you for passing on my love, tell
her I know she is watching from above.
Love you and miss you always Scott,
Meg, Katie, Jasmine, Cody, Brandon,
Ryan, Renee, Keith and Tyler.

After a year you can keep shedding
tears that she is gone or you can smile
because she lived.
You can close your eyes and pray she
will come back or you can open your
eyes and see all that she has left in us.
You can hear her can be empty because you
cannot see her or you can be full of the
love that she shared.
You can remember her with tears and
dwell only on she is gone or you can
cherish her memory and help it live on.
You can cry, close your heart, be empty
and feel all wrong or you can do what
she wanted, smile, open your heart
and move on.
We try to smile... Always and forever,
Ron Dennis, Kelley, Jeff, Jackie,
Chris, Julie and Yvonne



Darren Flagg
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That loss a life time regret
But we loved you deeply,
Try to think God will miss you best

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Meteors edged 3-2 by Welland at home

Matt McEwen
Special to the Times

The Fort Erie Meteors lost a close, rough game 3-2 on Saturday night against the Welland Jr. Canadians.

In a match with many minor penalties and two fights, the teams combined for 48 minutes in the box.

Meteors head coach Clint Strachan said one of the positives to come from the loss was the effectiveness of Fort Erie's powerplay, which accounted for both of their goals.

"Two powerplay goals, that's something we haven't seen in quite a while ... it's always nice to see us bury a couple on the powerplay and that always helps you out," Strachan said.

While the Meteors played hard for 60 minutes, their goaltender Matt Stuart was the main reason the score was kept close.

Stuart made big saves when his team was pinned into their own zone, stopping the puck with his glove, blocker and even his feet.

"I thought he played really well. He made a lot of big saves for us and kept that game close," Meteors forward Nigel Slade said of his goalie's play.

Stuart said he thinks he played a good game, and made the stops his team needed him too.

"I'm starting to play a little more consistently over the last few games. I'm getting into a rhythm so it's all forces ahead right now."

Stuart said he was happy with the physical play his team engaged in.

"It was good to see some tilts in the game, good hits. It was a good hard battled game, a playoff atmosphere."

Strachan said he loved the physical game his

team played.

"I think that's the way a hockey game is supposed to be played; in your face and crashing and banging a lot. We did that tonight."

Fort Erie's next game is a rematch in Welland on Sunday Jan. 29.

Strachan says his team always plays well in Welland and they will play

tough if they need to.

"We're going to go into their barn and if they want to play physical we're going to bring the physical game to it."



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Local figure skaters Marlice VanSittert, Audrey, Morrison, John Dermott, Kourtney Edmunds and Cassondra Langlois-Paul recently brought home some hardware from a competition in Grimsby. Other medalists who are absent from the photo are Georgina Kosanic and Madelyn Beam.

Skaters return from competition

The Fort Erie Figure Skating Club participated in the Charles Dover Memorial Invitational Competition in Grimsby on January 14 and 15.

Georgina Kosanic came in sixth place in the Starskate junior bronze category.

John Dermott won gold in the WO men's preliminary B Ltd. category.

Audrey Morrison won gold in the WO ladies preliminary B Ltd. bracket and Madelyn Beam came in sixth.

In the WO ladies preliminary A category, Kourtney Edmunds captured the silver, while Marlice VanSittert came in fourth and Cassondra Langlois-Paul came in sixth.

The skaters are now pre-

paring for the Boston Pizza competition to be held in Kitchener in February. The club is also getting ready for the Futures East Invitational Competition, being held in Simcoe in March.

All skaters are also getting prepared for the end of season ice show, which will take place at the Leisureplex at the end of March.

TV series wants to highlight Fort Erie

Terry Bradshaw is most likely coming to Fort Erie. The National Football League hall of fame member is hosting a new television series called "Today in America," that will include a component about Canada, and Fort Erie is one of the areas of the great nation that will be highlighted on the show.

Council will consider allocating \$24,000 to allow Fort Erie to be a subject on the show, that highlights tourism, recreational lifestyle and retirement attraction to name a few.

Fort Erie being a border town, that provides opportu-

nity for people to enjoy National Hockey League and National Football League games so easily, will likely be highlighted in the show.

Mayor Doug Martin has met with the series' production manager to highlight why Fort Erie should be chosen.

"If we fit all the criteria we're looking for, we'll go ahead and do it," said Martin.

The segment would run about five minutes in length and the show's staff would provide the script and help with scouting the best locations to collect video and conduct on camera interviews.

Bricks & Bouquets

If you have a brick or bouquet send it to editorial@forterietimes.com or phone 905-871-3100, ext. 210 and leave a message

Brick

To all those inconsiderate, self absorbed customers in checkout lanes who are so engrossed in their cell phones or MP3 players, they pay no attention to cashiers trying to do their job and hold up other customers due to their lack of respect.

Bouquet

To friendly neighbours who go out of their way to clear other driveways on their street, as a courteous gesture. When it's this cold outside, we need to work together.

Brick

To the large 4x4 truck that tailed me in a snowstorm last week while driving down Netherby Road. I was trying to make it to class on time, very worried about my safety and you seemed to be out driving as erratic as possible. When you passed me, you were on your cell phone!

Bouquet

To local residents who cleaned up some of the debris and branches on their street during the recent high-wind activity we've been experiencing. Also, the same bouquet should be delivered to the man down the street who brought me back my garbage can lid, also because of the wind.

Brick

To people who use the drive-thru at local restaurants and feel like ordering everything off the menu. A couple of times I thought I was going to run out of gas while waiting behind you.

If your order is that complicated, take it inside pal.

Bouquet

To everyone who helped local food banks during the holiday season, but also realize there is just as much need all through the year.

Crystal Ridge Skating Club

PASTA DINNER

Friday, February 3rd, 2012

5:00-7:00p.m. at the

Crystal Ridge Community Centre

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\$10.00 - Includes

\$10 Fort Erie Slots Voucher



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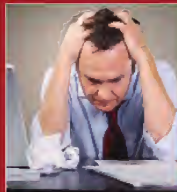
FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL HEART MONTH

Love your heart: manage your stress!

When we think about heart disease and strokes, we think about risk factors such as smoking, obesity, a sedentary lifestyle, high cholesterol, hypertension, diabetes, and excessive alcohol consumption. The month of February, which has been declared Heart Month by the Heart and Stroke Foundation, is a great opportunity to take on the other big enemy of a healthy heart: stress. This is the perfect time for all of us to incorporate some stress relieving techniques into our daily lives.

A certain amount of stress can be a good thing, but too much of it should be avoided. Undue stress can stem from major life events such as losing a job or divorce or even from daily worries such as traffic jams, busy family schedules, or interpersonal conflict. Its main symptoms include anxiety, headaches, stomach and bowel problems, and muscle tension. Stress can also cause an increase in cholesterol levels or blood pressure and can result in a narrowing of the arteries.

Managing stress first requires that you understand what is preventing you from feeling relaxed, whether it can be directly resolved or not. The next step is to become more physically active, which will help you flush out the stress hormones in your body. Try not to bottle up your emotions; share your feelings with loved ones. Try to set aside some time just for yourself and take regular vacations from work. Eating a healthy, balanced diet should also be a priority and, last but not least, make laughter a part of your daily life. Laughing is a great natural mechanism for relieving stress and it is guaranteed to leave you feeling good!



The main symptoms of undue stress are anxiety, muscle tension, headaches and digestive troubles.

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